

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 101231

EXDIS, FOR AMPASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, GR, TU, CY, US

SUBJECT: TURKISH REACTION TO GREEK EFFORTS TO MAINTAIN THE
EMBARGO

REF: (A) ATHENS 3008, (B) ATHENS 3009, (C) ANKARA 2741

1. WE READ REPORT OF YOUR APRIL 11 MEETING WITH CARAMAN-
LIS WITH INTEREST AND BELIEVE YOU TOOK EXACTLY THE CORRECT
LINE IN RESPONDING TO THE POINTS MADE BY THE PRIME MINIS-
TER. YOUR CAUTIONING THE GREEKS AGAINST SUMMARY GOC RE-
JECTION OF THE TURKISH-CYPRIOT PROPOSALS WAS PARTICULARLY
APPROPRIATE AND HELPFUL.

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2. IN FUTURE CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN EMBASSY OFFICERS AND
GREEK OFFICIALS IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO CONTINUE TO UNDER-
LINE OUR CLEAR UNDERSTANDING OF GOG DISAPPOINTMENT WITH
ADMINISTRATION'S PROGRAM BUT ALSO OUR APPRECIATION OVER
MODERATE REACTION OF THE GREEK GOVERNMENT AND ITS EFFORTS
TO RESTRAIN THE MORE VOCAL AND STRIDENT ELEMENTS OF THE

GREEK POPULACE.

3. WE FULLY APPRECIATE THE DIFFICULTIES WHICH THE ADMINISTRATION'S PROGRAM POSE FOR CARAMANLIS AND WE ARE AWARE OF HIS SENSE OF INCREASING ISOLATION IN HIS EFFORTS TO MOVE

AHEAD WITH SOME OF HIS FOREIGN POLICY GOALS, INCLUDING STRONGER TIES TO WESTERN EUROPE. IN THIS REGARD, WE WILL CONTINUE TO SEEK TO BE AS HELPFUL AS WE CAN (SUCH AS, FOR EXAMPLE, RECENT INSERTION OF LANGUAGE ON AEGEAN SECURITY IN SECRETARY'S APR 6 HIRC STATEMENT). WE WOULD WELCOME EMBASSY ATHENS FURTHER SUGGESTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

4. DEPT AGREES WITH REF C ARGUMENT THAT GREECE OVER LONG RUN HAS AN INTEREST IN A HEALTHY, CONSTRUCTIVE TURKISH RELATIONSHIP WITH US AND REST OF NATO. WE HAVE USED THAT THEME AMONG OTHERS IN PRESENTING ADMINISTRATION'S EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN PROGRAM. AT SAME TIME, WE AGREE WITH THRUST OF REF B THAT IN SHORT RUN SUCH A THEME IF STRESSED TO GOG WOULD BE POTENTIALLY COUNTERPRODUCTIVE GIVEN THE FRAME OF MIND WHICH CURRENTLY EXISTS IN ATHENS, NICOSIA AND AMONG GREECE'S FRIENDS IN THE US. WE WILL CONTINUE TO MAKE THE POINT AS WE SEEK CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL WITHOUT, HOWEVER, GIVING IT UNDUE WEIGHT. BY SAME TOKEN WE HOPE ATHENS WILL STRESS, AS WE HAVE HERE, THAT FLEXIBLE TURKISH

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POSTURE ON CYPRUS AND TOWARD RELATIONS WITH GREECE WOULD BE BEST SERVED BY CONGRESSIONAL ADOPTION OF ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM AND THAT THIS OBJECTIVE HAS ALREADY ACHIEVED SOME RESULTS. CHRISTOPHER

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